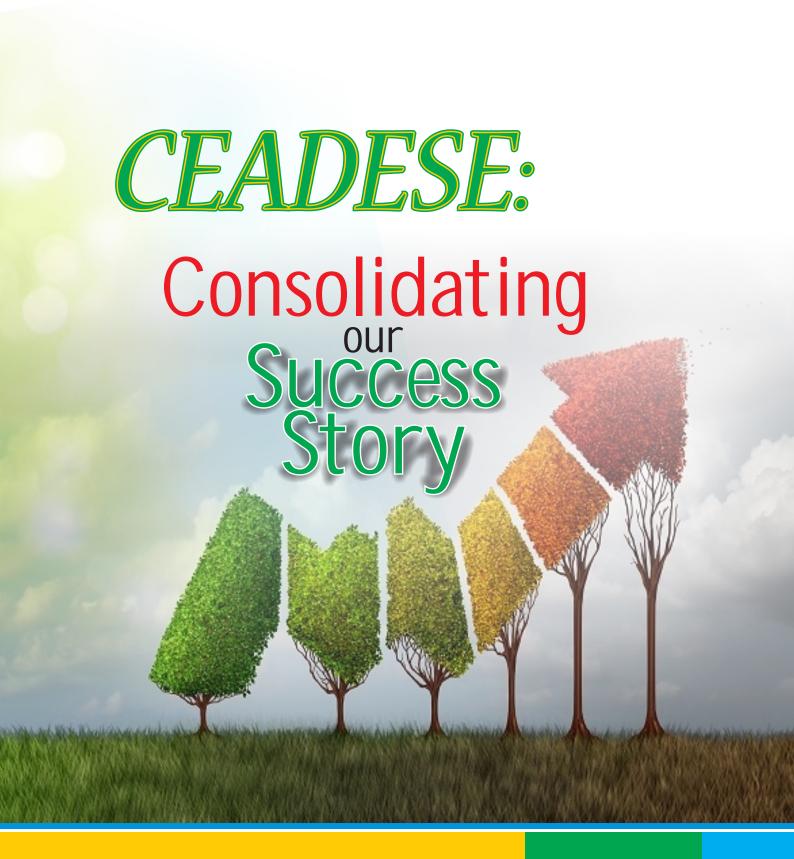


A publication of the CEADESE-FUNAAB

Vol. 2 N 0.1 April - June 2019



## CEADESE Newsletter

World Bank Africa Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment

A publication of the CEADESE-FUNAAB

Vol. 2 N o.1

April - June, 2019





he second edition of the Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE) Newsletter focuses on consolidating our success story. Recently, a courtesy call was made by CEADESE team to the World Bank (WB) and National Universities Commission (NUC), respectively in Abuja. A presentation was made by the CEADESE Director at the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) office in Abuja. The discussion was based on ways of improving Research and Development (R&D) in Nigeria. The Director of CEADESE and Centre Leader, Prof. Olukayode Akinyemi has advocated for the Result-based Financing Model for any R&D projects in Nigeria.

CEADESE also promotes staff exchange with other ACEs and hosts courses in Integrated Agriculture for farmers in Iwoye-Ketu. Finally, the Association for Quality Assurance System (AQAS) grants CEADESE international accreditation. This feat shows that CEADESE will be among the first set of ACEs in public universities across the country that met the requirements for international accreditation. No doubt, this quarterly Newsletter will continue to be the veritable platform for sensitising and projecting CEADESE programmes by reporting its latest developments and breakthroughs.

Communication Officer, Professor Olusegun Folorunso

#### **Publisher**

World Bank Africa Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta.

### Dear Reader,

s part of targeted efforts at consolidating on our gains, we recently embarked on some high profile visits to some of our sponsors and regulators; World Bank (WB) and National Universities Commission (NUC). Their regular monitoring and evaluation visits and oversight functions had helped in strengthening the ACE at the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB). Since the commencement of the CEADESE programme, massive investment has been deployed into



postgraduate students' training; faculty development; community engagement; procurement of cutting edge teaching and research facilities; upgrading of existing facilities; and recruitment of international students into the University.

At the moment, we are equally delighted to be involved in sharing of experiences with the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TetFund) and other national and international stakeholders in repositioning research and development using the Centre of Excellence model.

Sustaining the momentum of excellence is, therefore, a task that must be achieved.

Centre Leader/Director, Professor Olukayode Akinyemi

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CEADESE Orientate New Students



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Felix Salako (4th Right); Centre Leader and Director, Prof. Olukayode Akinyemi (4th Left);
Dr. Mistura Rufai (WB Consultant); Ms. Aisha Garba Mohammed (2nd Right); Prof. Babatunde Adewumi (Extreme Right); Mrs. Serifat Balogun (CEADESE Accountant);
Dr. Israel Osunsina (3rd Left); and Prof. Olusegun Folorunso at the World Bank office.

Chancellor of FUNAAB, Prof. Felix Salako, recently paid a courtesy visit to the World Bank office and the National Universities Commission (NUC), Abuja. At the World Bank office, the team was welcomed by Ms. Aisha Mohammed, Education Specialist and ACE Country CO-TTL, Nigerian Higher Education Project, who is also the bank's focal person for the Africa Centres of Excellence Project.

The Director of CEADESE, Prof. Olukayode Akinyemi, gave brief introductory remarks about CEADESE and the purpose of the visit. He said the focus of CEADESE was to promote teaching, learning and research excellence in agricultural productivity in the face of climate change challenges. In view of these, he noted that CEADESE had developed post-graduate curricula that led to the training and graduation of students in Master and Doctoral degrees in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment, in response to specific productivity challenges. Prof. Akinyemi added that CEADESE also engaged in short term skill acquisition programme for industry stakeholders through specialised workshops and internships and that the Centre was partnering with 18 regional and 13 international centers in more than 100 postgraduates research projects in six West African countries with up-to-date research facilities.

Prof. Akinyemi further stated that more focus would be beamed on research projects in six disciplines such as Agricultural Economics and Environmental Policy, Agricultural Mechanisation and Sustainable Environment, Crop/Pasture Production and Sustainable Environment, Food Processing and Value Addition, and Environmental Systems and Climate Change, saying the idea for the development of initial ACE Curriculum was born out of the initial need and assessment from interactions among the main partner institutions in Nigeria alongside five other regional countries. The following key achievements were given by Director with relevant statistics on level of graduate output of the Centre since its inception:

#### a. Graduate Output

M. AgSE PhD. AgSE

#### b. Accreditation

- National accreditation conducted by NUC, Abuja
- International accreditation conducted by AOAS, Germany

(Presently, CEADESE-FUNAAB is the first public University to attain international accreditation in Nigeria)

#### c. Agricultural ACE Consortium

Recently, the umbrella body of the Committee of Agricultural and Environmental (ACEs), under World Bank projects, formed a Consortium in Lome, Togo during a conference involving ACEs. The body agreed to make CEADESE in Nigeria the international secretariat for agricultural ACES, based on its giant strides. The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta would now host the Secretariat with the support of the Vice-Chancellor and University Management. According to Prof. Akinyemi, it was decided

that the Agriculture ACE Consortium would hire an experienced person as the ACE Consortium Coordinator with adequate skills in grantsmanship, who would be able to support the Consortium ACE centres in grantsourcing. The Consortium ACEs would pay coordinator for one year, after which, the consortium coordinator would be funded from the internally-generated funds from his/her activities.

#### d. Internationalisation

CEADESE, in partnership with the Agency for Quality Assurance, through Accreditation of Study Programmes (AQAS), Germany; Department of Science Education, University of Copenhagen, Denmark; Perigrine Leadership Institute and Academic Services, Gillette, Wyoming, USA; as well as the Galilee International Management Institute, Israel, had become a hub in the training of faculty members on modern innovative methods of teaching, active learning, pedagogy, leadership, management skills and the environment. The Centre Leader stated further that, "within our West African region, we have a





strong relationship with countries like The Gambia, Liberia, Benin and Togo".

#### e. Key Achievements

Major research breakthroughs of faculty members and students of CEADESE, since inception include the:

- Development of a machine for pelletizing poultry faeces into odour-free organic manure
- Development of a greenhouse unit for optimally-cultivating onion in Abeokuta, South-West, Nigeria
- Identification of sub-1 QTL gene for submergence tolerance in rice
- Genetic analysis of soybean response to storage stress
- Development of fried Chicken nuggets from FUNAAB indigenous broilers
- Development of liquid-smoked Chicken sausages from FIB and Marshal broilers
- Development of yoghurt from milk of WAD goat.
- Development of biodegradable egg yolk colourant for laying birds
- Significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from goat house
- Delineation of salt intrusion pathways in the underground coastal water systems of Nigeria
- Development of climate smart predictive models for Nigeria, Togo, The Gambia, Liberia and Benin Republic

Our areas of strengths for possible funding include:

- Climate Smart Agriculture
- Safe and Sustainable Environment
- Food Security
- CleanWater
- Crop Pasture Production
- Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals for the Community
- ICTs and Agriculture
- Production of Critical Mass of Master's and PhD Graduates

While narrating the Centre's key achievements and success stories, Prof. Akinyemi gave further insights into 'where we are' in the following ways:



(I) Achieving 95% of the DLIs and triggering 95% of the redistributed funds with high level of commitment for spending. Other key challenges, which brought CEADESE team to the World Bank office, were discussed. Since the entire programme was rounding off in March 2020, the bone of contention is the sustainability of the programme for continuity. Prof. Akinyemi appreciated the bank for organising the clinical team at Djibouti, which really assisted the Centre. The CEADESE Director used the occasion to ask salient questions that were meant to justify the team's visit to the World Bank in the following ways:

- 1. To acknowledge the support of the World Bank.
- 2. To seek World Bank' intervention for quick release of triggered funds.
- 3. To ask for support beyond March 2020.

Prof. Akinyemi stated that for effectiveness, there is the need to get World Bank assistance and support in the area of sustainability. Prof. Babatunde, Adewumi of FUNAAB, on his part, narrated how FUNAAB's Centre for Entrepreneurial Studies (CENTS) had a GIS Startup programme, which was being enjoyed by University students and already in the pipeline for CEADESE students.

Responding, Ms. Aisha Mohammed thanked and congratulated CEADESE on its recent achievements. She particularly commended the well-developed presentation made by the Director. She advised the Centre Leader to be focused on Effective World Bank Project, while not neglecting the World Bank Pipeline Projects, as there would be a link with stakeholders, while appreciating the Centre for having both national and international accreditations of some of its programmes. She

advised CEADESE to prepare journal and checklists of what CEADESE can do. However, she emphasized on Business Model development for the Centre.

She sought to know whether CEADESE had reached out to the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, just as the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Felix Salako reiterated that the University was now being supervised by the Ministry. Ms. Mohammed gave the list of opportunities and partners, which CEADESE and FUNAAB could link up. She later took the Vice-Chancellor and the Centre Leader round the World Bank facilities, to have interactions with some specific task team leaders, who were in charge of other projects within the bank. She advised that CEADESE should organise a national workshop on agriculture and national development by inviting Agriculture Minister and other key stakeholders and engaging in adequate media publicity. She also charged the Centre to come up with strong business model and consider developing curriculum for both primary and secondary schools, as she further mentioned the ongoing reforms in agriculture and colleges of education in Edo State.

In a related development, the team was at the National Universities Commission (NUC), Abuja, where Prof. Akinyemi appreciated NUC for the support given the Centre since its inception to date. Dr. Joshua Attah, the National ACE Project Coordinator thanked the CEADESE team for the visit. On the issue of delays in releasing fund to the Centre, Dr. Attah insisted that the two signatories to ACE's Centres of Excellence remained only the Centre Leader and Project Accountant.



Meanwhile, the CEADESE Director briefed the Executive Secretary of NUC on the purpose of the visit of the team to his office, noting that the last visit of the Executive Secretary, Prof. Abubakar Rasheed, to FUNAAB and CEADESE in October 2017 afforded then an opportunity, to raise critical comments that helped the Centre in making drastic adjustments to its operations that had led to significant



improvement. He appreciated the Executive Secretary for the candid observations.

The Executive Secretary enjoined Dr. Joshua Attah to brief him about the progress reports of CEADESE in the last 18 months. The Executive Secretary was impressed and expressed his satisfaction on its performance and gave his assurance of better future for the Centre. He stated that the achievements of CEADESE would be showcased at the next Annual National Review Meeting of NUC and World Bank's Africa Centres of Excellence workshop. The Executive Secretary lauded the incumbent Vice-Chancellor of FUNAAB, Prof. Felix Salako for his sterling leadership qualities by supporting the Centre and promoting synergy with the University Management.



## R & D PROJECTS: **DON ADVOCATES FOR RESULT-BASED FINANCING MODEL**

A clarion call has been made by the Director, Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE), Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Professor Olukayode Akinyemi, on the need for paradigm shift from the old system of funding Research and Development (R & D) projects in Nigeria, to a more robust Result-Based Approach, using Centre of Excellence (CoE) model. This position was made known during the presentation of his paper titled, "Pushing for a Disruptive Innovation for R&D Using CoE Model".

Prof. Akinyemi appreciated TETFund for its rescue mission by supporting higher educational institutions in Nigeria and that if not for the existence of TETFund, most institutions would have been moribund by now. He gave an insight into the advancement in research that gave birth to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), which had revolutionise Research and Development (R&D) in recent times and playing vital role in the innovation process. He further stated that most scientific and educational researches failed because there

was non-existence of national development strategy for research in Nigeria. Due to the nature of R&D problems on ground, Prof. Akinyemi proposed that, a Disruptive Innovative Strategy had to be put-up, to address the problem holistically. "Disruptive Innovations, as defined by Christensen et al 2018, is a new technology or start-up that aims to shake up an industry and alter its competitive patterns; previously successful incumbents facing difficulties or going out of business are routinely said to have disrupted," he stated.

The Don noted that if R&D issues were not handled with seriousness, there was going to be problem, both now and in the future. He gave an illumination into the establishment of R&D in Nigeria before the Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Africa, which was launched in 2013. Prior to this period, the World Bank had already conducted a survey on the challenges facing R&D in Africa and came out with nine-points of inadequate funding, poor regionalisation, weak universities-industry linkages, low internationalisation, obsolete infrastructure, unclear research and educational structure and policy individualism, weak reward system and poor quality assurance mechanisms.

Key executors of CoE were selected from the World Bank, Association of African Universities (AAU), government regulatory agencies, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), Federal Ministry of Finance and government of African countries, as he described the conceptualisation and establishment of CoE, using CEADESE-FUNAAB, as a case study. He briefed TETFund officials about the initial competitive nature of the application from different universities, aiming at establishing Centres of Excellence, when the call was put up in 2013.

He disclosed that CEADESE officially took-off in FUNAAB on 16th February, 2014, following approval at the special Senate meeting. Being an academic centre, the vision, mission and core values were mentioned during the presentation. He added that the main objectives of strengthening human and

material capacity for agricultural development had focused on teaching, learning and research excellence in agricultural productivity in the face of climate change, which made the programme to be unique from others in the University. However, a 10-point CEADESE operational model was presented that made the Centre special among other CoEs, as follows:

- 1. Needs Assessment was carried out when establishing programmes;
- 2. Institutional integration with existing University programmes and structure;
- Regionalisation, including recruitment of faculty and students, research collaboration;
- 4. Effective industrial linkages;
- 5. Language skill support;
- 6. Policy harmonisation;
- 7. Enhanced procurement management;
- 8. Incentive mechanism;
- 9. Target capacity building; and
- 10. Sustainability strategies.

Professor Olukayode Akinyemi emphasised that the success stories came up due to the result-based funding model adopted by the World Bank. For CEADESE, it decided to have three disbursement link indicators such as teaching, capacity building and research. He further analysed the indicators and highlighted the approaches to teaching and learning, as adopted by CEADESE while its capacity building focused on internship and short-term courses and workshops.

The Centre Leader gave a breakdown of the relevance of internship, as a way of identifying various challenges in industries that may lead to research problems for CEADESE students, which is usually done, three months before the commencement of proper research and three months after the completion of the students' independent research that focused on industry-based problems. Prof. Akinyemi said students were keenly supervised by institutional-based supervisors and those from the industry. Further information on capacity building and short-term courses were listed with the purpose and outcomes.

He stated that the research conducted in

CEADESE were demand-driven and focused on developmental needs of industries and stakeholders in agriculture and other thematic agricultural research projects of international interests, saying the beauty of the programme was that, there are many regional students from countries like Liberia, Togo, Republic of Benin, The Gambia and others and they are all enjoying the programme while some had graduated and doing well back in their countries, based on the feedback on tracking mechanisms. Research breakthroughs from the six major programmes were also listed while some of the breakthroughs of some students' researches were awaiting patenting.

As part of CEADESE strengths, the Don added that, 100% national accreditation of course was recorded recently, as conducted by national regulatory body; NUC while it was brought to the notice of TETFund team that CEADESE had achieved international accreditation, which was first in the country to have international accreditation for its postgraduate programmes, as conducted by AQAS in Germany. In terms of state-of-art laboratory equipment, CEADESE had made a mark and from the records, over 70% of FUNAAB graduates were employable.

Prof. Akinyemi said the next direction of CEADESE on sustainability drive was to move in the direction of consultancy and that efforts were in top gear in mobilising experts in ICTs in the development of solutions by supporting the value chain in agriculture and management of post-harvest losses using ICTs. He further said that, work was in progress on critical issues on why agricultural projects failed and that efforts on consultancy projects

involving agricultural extension services, were in the pipeline.

At the occasion, the newly-developed CEADESE Business Model Canvass (BMC), was displayed and each component was thoroughly discussed. The Centre Leader gave the following recommendations:

- Sustenance of the present centres of excellence in order to avoid unnecessary duplication;
- 2. Establishment of centres of excellence in new areas:
- 3. A national policy on centres of excellence has to be formulated;
- 4. Creation of centres of excellence offices in relevant ministries
- 5. Well-coordinated synergy among CoE
- 6. Creation of secretariat for subject-specific CoE
- 7. Effective monitoring and evaluation
- 8. Subject-specific conferences and workshops for CoE
- 9. Sustenance of result-based financing model

Prof. Akinyemi was commended for the presentation by the Chairman of the event while questions were asked on the salient points raised. Speaking at the occasion, the Executive Secretary of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), Professor Sulaiman Bogoro, who was represented by an eminent scholar, Professor Charles Njoku, attended by TETFund principal and top officers, said CEADESE was invited to give vital information about the conception and establishment of the Centre, using CoE model. Meanwhile, the CEADESE team members present were Prof. Olusegun Folorunso and Dr. Israel Osunsina.



FUNAAB and TETFund officials during the visit.



Prof. Akinyemi delivering his paper at the occasion.



Prof. Akinyemi (With microphone) delivering his paper while Prof. Olusegun Folorunso (Right) and Dr. Israel Osunsina watch with keen interest.



signed Memorandum of Understanding with other universities within and outside Nigeria in the promotion of regional integration. In this regard, CEADESE had admitted students from Togo, Liberia, Republic of Benin, The Gambia and others for its M.Sc AgSE and Ph.D AgSE programmes, to foster better relationship with other Africa Centers of Excellence (ACE).

Recently, Olusegun Folorunso, a Professor of Computer Science in the Department of Computer Science of the university, was invited as an Adjunct Professor at the Center d'Excellence Regional Sur les Sciences Aviaires (CERSA), Universite De Lome, Togo. While at CERSA, the Professor, who specialises in Applied Computing and Informatics, taught the students on the use of ICTs in agriculture, just as CERSA students had an intensive hands-on-practicals on the use of productivity software in analysing data collected from poultry farms, development of database and the use of social media for sharing information.

Agricultural information and knowledge flow problems affecting poultry farming in Togo, were identified by the students, as the design of likely solutions were sketched by the students in the form of projects, such as: Poultry diseases prevention information system in Togo and Veterinary poultry products information system. These projects were designed to prevent the spread of poultry diseases, to reduce losses and to have easy access to veterinary products in order to control and eliminate devastating diseases in the poultry industry in Togo, using ICTs.

The students' representative, Mr. Kossi-Messan Agboka and others could not hide their feelings. "This one week course on information systems (IS) is very interesting for us. The IS courses will help us to introduce ICTs in agricultural value chain from production to consumption, creation and sharing of knowledge with ICTs", he stated. Another student of CERSA and a Ghanaian, Okai Ansong Maxwell, stated that, "We thank you so much for the knowledge gained from you this whole week. It is a knowledge gained for our whole life. God bless you".

Prof. Folorunso suggested that the staff exchange programme was a welcome development among staff of the University, going by the current trends of globalisation and internationalisation of higher education; a university teacher, as a subject matter expert, should be able to deliver lectures and impact knowledge to students in any part of the world."I devised an effective teaching and learning strategy for the course delivery using multimedia tools and online language translators such as DeepL.com and Google Traduction, to translate some of my lecture notes from English to French and with the little I learn during my secondary school days and with the support of some students, who can speak both English and French, who I made as group leaders in the class".

Notwithstanding, the University, through the General Studies' Department, should intensify efforts at supporting staff and students in learning foreign languages. This will assist both staff and students in gaining upper hands when vouching for international jobs or assignments.



spart of the capacity building mandate of the Africa Centre of Excellence in Agriculture Development and Sustainable Development (CEADESE), Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, has held an international short course on "Integrated Agricultural Production and Management", for farmers and youths around Nigeria and the Benin Republic borders in Iwoye-Ketu, Ogun State.

Integrated programme farmers involved in poultry (Broilers) and fish production were trained on the importance, challenges and management of their various farms. During the short course, poultry farmers were introduced to the management of broiler chicken, health management in broiler chicken, marketing and record keeping in poultry production. Fish farmers were not left out, especially those engaged in fish production and management.

They were exposed to the introductory aspect of fish development, farm design and construction, pond preparation, stocking, nutrition, management, health, record keeping, marketing and knowing how to succeed as fish farmers. In all, 78 participants were trained, out of which 48 were males and 30 females. At the end, most of the participants admitted that they were intellectually-stimulated at the training programme.



## ... GETS AQAS INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION

The Africa Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE), Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (Nigeria), has been granted international accreditation for its academic programmes by the Agency for Quality Assurance System (AQAS), Germany.

This honour came as a result of the report of an expert panel and discussions of the Accreditation Commission at its 74th meeting, held in February this year. The commission decided that the following programmes should be accredited: Master's in Crop Pasture Production and Sustainable Environment (M.AgSE) and Master's in Agricultural Economics and Environmental Policy (M.AgSE).

The accreditation procedure and the resolution were based on the standards and guidelines for Quality Assurance (QA), as applicable in the European Higher Education Area (ESG). This shows that the programme had complied with AQAS criteria for programme accreditation and is in tandem with the requirements set by

## CEADESE

### **Orientates New Students**

he orientation programme for new students of the Centre of Excellence for Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE) for the 2018/2019 Academic Session was held recently at the centre.

The programme was declared open by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Felix Salako, who was represented by the centre's Director, Prof. Olukayode Akinyemi and had a variety of lectures that were delivered by experienced speakers from the University. They are Profs. Oluseyi Oluwatosin, Babatunde Adewumi, Olufiropo Awokola and Carolyn Afolami from CEADESE. Others include Prof. Wilfred Alegbeleye, Dean, Postgraduate School; Prof. Adewale Idowu, Dean, Student Affairs; Prof. Taofik Shittu, Deputy Dean, Student Affairs; Dr. Oludayo Oduwole, University Health Services; and a



Prof Olukayode Akinyemi (Director, CEADESE)





representative of the Head, Counselling Unit.

A total of 61 students, who participated in the event were company managers; directors in government ministries, departments and agencies; entrepreneurs; lecturers from universities and polytechnics; as well as **CEADESE** graduates

...up coming event



This is to invite all stakeholders to the

## First Quarterly Lecture Series

Organized by

Africa Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE)



# "Making Agricultural Funding Work in Nigeria"

Date of the presentation

12th November, 2019.

to be delivered by

Mr. Lamin Manjang, CEO, Standard Chartered Bank Nigeria Limited.

Thank you.

**CENTRE LEADER / DIRECTOR** 

## CEADES



# ogrammes

- LIVESTOCK SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABLE **ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME** 
  - -M.AgSE
  - -PhD.AgSE(Options: AAnimal Nutrition, Animal Breeding and Biotechnology, Animal Physiology, Livestock Production System
- **AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY PROGRAMME** 
  - -M.AgSE
  - -PhD.AgSE (Options: Production Economics, Resource and Environmental Economics, Agricultural Policy and Development, Agricultural Finance and Marketing)
- **CROP / PASTURE PRODUCTION AND** SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT **PROGRAMME** 
  - -M.AgSE
  - -PhD.AgSE (Options: Crop Production, Plant Breeding, Seed Technology, Crop Pathology, Crop Protection, Crop Entomology, Pasture Agronomy and Pasture Production).

- **FOOD PROCESSING AND VALUE ADDITION PROGRAMME** 
  - -M.AgSE
  - -PhD.AgSE (Option: Food Processing and ` Value Addition).
- **ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS AND AGRICULTURE PROGRAMME** 
  - -M.AgSE
  - -PhD.AgSE (Options: EHydrology and Climate Change, Environmental Geophysics, Remote Sensing and Climate Change, Environmental Safety).
- **AGRICULTURAL MECHANIZATION** AND SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT
  - -M.AgSE
  - -PhD.AgSE (Option: Food Engineering, Agricultural Engineering



